(e) whether Government propose to consider purchasing foodgrains from the farmers at higher remunerative rates/support price on the basis of cost of production of the foodgrains; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULL APP ALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) To provide protection to the farmers from exploitation Regulated markets are established under state legislation known as Agricultural Produce Markets Act. 6640 markets out of the total 6934 wholesale assembling markets have been brought under the ambit of the Regulations. Central assistance is also provided for setting up rural godowns to safeguard the interest of the producers— sellers against distress sales immediately after the harvest.

(e) and (f) The Government announces each season procurement/support prices for major agricultural commodities taking into account the cost of production and other relevant factors. It also organises purchase operation through public and Cooperative Agencies.

**Wilt disease among crops**

4077. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDMA-RAN: Will the (Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quick wilt disease is spreading among the crops in certain areas of (Kerala: and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to eradicate the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. It is a specific disease of peppervines in Kerala caused by a fungus and does hot affect other crops.

(b) A suitable control strategy has been evolved by the experts for management of Quick Wilt disease. Accordingly, State Government is popularising the following components of the strategy:—

(i) Spraying of *Vines* during May-June with recommended fungicides after the first monsoon showers, followed by second round of treatment during August-September.

(ii) Application of Bordeaux paste to the Collar region during May-June period.

(iii) Application of recommended fertilisers in two splits during May-June and August-September.

(iv) Avoidance of water stagnation, lopping of the standards during May and pruning of runner shoots lying on the ground.

**खाद्यान्नों का उत्पादन**

4078. श्री रणजीत सिंह :
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा:
श्री कमल मोरारका :

क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले चार दशकों के दौरान देश में खाद्यान्न-उत्पादन में काफी वृद्धि हुई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो 1950 से आरंभ हुए दशक के आरंभ में खाद्यान्न का उत्पादन कितना था; तथा 1980 के अंत में यह उत्पादन कितना था ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि 1950 के दशक में खाद्य उत्पादन की औसत दर 3 प्रतिशत थी जो 1980 के दशक में बढ़कर 3.5 प्रतिशत हो गई; और

(घ) क्या सरकार ने औसत दर में मामूली वृद्धि होने के कारणों का

पता लगाया है; यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है तथा 1990 के दशक के अंत तक खाद्य उत्पादन की औसत दर में वृद्धि करने के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुल्लापल्ली रामचन्द्रन) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) देश में 1950–51 तथा 1989–90 में खाद्यान्न उत्पादन क्रमश: 50.82 और 171.04 मिलियन मीटरी टन था ।

(ग) 1949–50 से 1959–60 की अवधि के दौरान खाद्यान्न उत्पादन की मिश्रित वृद्धिदर 3.22 प्रतिशत प्रतिवर्ष थी जो 1979–80 से 1990–91 के दशक में बढ़कर 3.68 प्रतिशत प्रतिवर्ष हो गई थी ।

(घ) 1980 के दशक के दौरान हुई खाद्यान्न उत्पादन की वृद्धि की दर इस अर्थ से महत्वपूर्ण है कि खाद्यान्नों में सारी वृद्धि उत्पादकता में बढ़ोत्तरी के जरिए हुई है । योजनागत विकास को पहले की अवधि में, विशेषकर 1949–50 से 1959–60 के दशक में, अधिकांश वृद्धि खाद्यान्नों के अंतर्गत क्षेत्र में वृद्धि होने से हुई थी । 1980–81 से 1990–91 के दशक में क्षेत्र में वृद्धि की दर नकारात्मक अर्थात् – 0.14 प्रतिशत प्रति वर्ष थी । दसवें दशक में खाद्यान्न उत्पादन की वृद्धि दर के लिए प्रस्तावित लक्ष्य लगभग 3.3 प्रतिशत प्रतिवर्ष है ।

**Palm oil cultivation in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka**

4079. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chaddha Committee has recommended for cultivation of Palm-oil trees in two and half lakhs hectares each in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka States;
and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI (MULLAIPPALLY R AMAOHANDRAN ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To promote cultivation of Oil Palm in the identified areas, the following schemes are being implemented in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka:—

(i) Establishment of two Oil' Palm Seed Gardens, on each in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

(ii) Establishment of six Oil Palm Nurseries, three each in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, over an area of 180 hectares and raise 20.4 lakh Oil Palm Seedings to cater an Area Expansion Programme of 6000 hectares in each State.

(iii) A Frontline Demonstration Pro-' ject on Oil Palm Cultivation and Processing in Karnataka.

(iv) One Palm Oil Extraction Plant of 1 MT/hr. capacity is under construction in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh.

**Research on agricultural products**

4080. SHRI M. VINCENT; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of research work done for better and high yielding varieties of agricultural products by various Research Centres; and

(b) the extent to which the findings thereof have teen adopted by the agri-culturists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C LENKA): (a) Sir, A total of *1935* high yielding varieties of different crops have been developed for enhancing productivity and production in different regions and crop growing situations.